

USA Comments AAHC REPORT – AUGUST 2005

CHAPTER 3.1.7.

INFECTION WITH *MIKROCYTOS MACKINI*

Article 3.1.7.1.

For the purposes of this *Aquatic Code*, infection with *Mikrocytos mackini* means infection only with *Mikrocytos mackini*.

Methods for surveillance, diagnosis and confirmatory identification are provided in the *Aquatic Manual* [under study].

**Comment**

The United States supports de-listing *M. mackini* because infection with the organism has not been associated with significant production losses in affected populations, hence it does not meet the criteria for listing.

Article 3.1.7.3.

**Commodities**

1. When authorising import or transit of the following *commodities*, *Competent Authorities* should not require any *Mikrocytos mackini* related conditions, regardless of the *Mikrocytos mackini* status of the *exporting country, zone or compartment*:
  - a) From the species listed in Article 3.1.7.2. for any purpose:
    - i) Commercially-sterile canned or other heat treated products;
    - ii) *Gametes*, ~~eggs~~ and larvae;
  - b) The following products destined for human consumption from the species listed in Article 3.1.7.2. which have been prepared in such a way as to minimise the risk for alternative uses (a Member Country may wish to consider the need to introduce internal measures to prevent the commodity being used for any purpose other than for human consumption):
    - i) ~~Chemically~~ Preserved products (e.g. smoked, salted, pickled, marinated, etc ...);
    - ii) ...
    - iii) ...

**Rationale:**

Article 3.1.7.3 1)a: ii) Eggs are gametes, so the term is redundant.

Article 3.1.7.3 1)b)i): Smoking and freeze drying are physical (not chemical) processes.

**Articles 3.1.7.7 and 3.1.10.10**

The sentence in each of these articles which reads:

“The certificate ~~shall~~**should** be in accordance with the Model Certificate in Appendix 6.3.1 and 6.3.2..”

**Comment:** Recommend replacing the word “shall” with “should” as it is a more appropriate term when referring to a recommended procedure.